



# Mineral Industry Surveys

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## ALUMINUM IN MAY 2003

The reported domestic primary aluminum production in May was 235,649 metric tons (t). The average daily production rate was 7,602 t, 1% higher than that of the previous month and 4% above the rate for May 2002.

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot increased from 64.5 cents per pound in April to 66.6 cents per pound in May, according to Platts Metals Week. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum used beverage cans (UBCs) increased by a penny during the month of May. The price range began the month at 48.5–50.5 cents per pound. On May 2, the buying price range increased by a half penny to 49–51 cents per pound, and increased by a half penny again on May 20 to 49.5–51.5 cents per pound, where it remained through the end of the month. According to Resource Recycling's Container Recycling Report, the average monthly

transaction price for aluminum UBCs increased from 50.5 cents per pound in April to 51.8 cents per pound in May.

### Update

The monthly average U.S. market price of primary aluminum ingot decreased slightly from 66.6 cents per pound in May to 66.3 cents per pound in June. The American Metal Market buying price range for aluminum UBCs trended downward during the month of June. On June 2, the buying price range decreased to 49–51 cents per pound. On June 13, the price decreased again to 48.5–50.5 cents per pound before returning to the 49–51 cents per pound range on June 20. On June 27, the price range decreased to 48–50 cents per pound and then decreased again on June 30 to 47.5–49 cents per pound.

TABLE 1  
COMPONENTS OF ALUMINUM SUPPLY<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Primary production	Secondary recovery <sup>2</sup>			Imports for consumption			Total new supply <sup>3</sup>	Total stocks, end of period <sup>4</sup>
		New	Old	Total	Metals and alloys, crude	Plates, sheets, bars, etc.	Total		
2002 <sup>p</sup>	2,707	1,810	1,210	3,020	2,790	798 <sup>r</sup>	3,590	9,320	1,320
2002:									
May	228	152	102	254	221	76	297	779	1,280
June	225	148	98	246	263	71	334	805	1,320
July	238	143	101	244	228	74	302	784	1,310
August	237	155	105	260	279	77	356	853	1,350
September	227	157	102	260	235	70	305	792 <sup>r</sup>	1,370
October	235	164	111	276	196	67	263	774	1,360
November	232	148	100	248	264	64	328	808	1,370
December	241	140	91	231	186	61	247	719	1,320
January-May	1,070	755	503	1,260	1,140	313	1,460	3,790	1,280
2003:									
January	242	152	96	248	215	69	284	774	1,350
February	220	153	88	241	246	64	310	771	1,390
March	238	143	88	231	350	71	421	891	1,420
April	225	143	99	242	202	69	272	739	1,370
May	236	147	104	251	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
January-May	1,160	738	475	1,210	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA

<sup>p</sup>Preliminary. <sup>r</sup>Revised. NA Not available.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits, except "Primary production"; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Metallic recovery from purchased, tolled, or imported scrap, expanded for full coverage of industry.

<sup>3</sup>Primary production, secondary recovery, and imports for consumption.

<sup>4</sup>Includes scrap; data from the Aluminum Association Inc.

TABLE 2  
ESTIMATED FULL COVERAGE CONSUMPTION OF AND METALLIC RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP<sup>1</sup>

(Thousand metric tons)

Period	Secondary smelters		Integrated aluminum companies		Independent mill fabricators		Foundries		Other consumers		Total	
	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery	Con-sump-tion	Metal recovery
2002 <sup>P</sup>	1,840	1,380	871	754	823	764	134	122	6	6	3,680	3,020
2002:												
May	153	115	73	63	69	64	13	12	(2)	(2)	309	254
June	150	112	65	56	71	66	12	11	(2)	(2)	299	246
July	148	110	66	56	75	69	9	8	(2)	(2)	298	244
August	155	115	76	66	75	69	11	10	1	1	317	260
September	153	114	78	68	72	67	11	10	(2)	(2)	315	260
October	167	126	79	68	77	71	11	10	(2)	(2)	334	276
November	149	111	71	61	71	66	11	10	(2)	(2)	302	248
December	146	107	64	55	63	59	10	9	(2)	(2)	284	231
January-May	776	583	372	323	319	296	59	54	3	3	1,530	1,260
2003:												
January	147	109	70	60	72	67	12	11	1	1	301	248
February	147	109	66	57	68	64	11	10	(2)	(2)	293	241
March	140	103	59	50	73	69	10	9	(2)	(2)	282	231
April	137	102	75	65	71	66	10	9	(2)	(2)	294	242
May	137	101	82	71	73	68	11	10	(2)	(2)	304	251
January-May	707	525	353	305	357	334	54	48	2	2	1,470	1,210

<sup>P</sup>Preliminary.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

TABLE 3  
CONSUMPTION OF AND RECOVERY FROM PURCHASED  
NEW AND OLD ALUMINUM SCRAP IN MAY 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	Consumption		Calculated metallic recovery	
	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage	Tabulated reports	Estimated full coverage
Secondary smelters	114,000	137,000	84,600	101,000
Integrated aluminum companies	82,400	82,400	71,500	71,500
Independent mill fabricators	61,200	73,400	56,800	68,200
Foundries	8,840	10,600	7,940	9,520
Other consumers	364	437	364	437
Total	267,000	304,000	221,000	251,000

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

TABLE 4  
PURCHASED AND TOLL-TREATED ALUMINUM-BASE SCRAP AND SWEATED PIG IN 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

	May			January-May <sup>2</sup>		
	Stocks, opening	Net receipts <sup>3</sup>	Melted or consumed	Stocks, closing	Net receipts <sup>3</sup>	Melted or consumed
New scrap:						
Solids	20,400 <sup>†</sup>	82,900	82,400	20,900	385,000	393,000
Can stock clippings	3,310	17,800	18,300	2,810	95,400	94,300
Other clippings	5,400	8,190	8,190	5,400	46,900	47,200
Borings and turnings	4,540	16,700	16,200	5,020	87,900	87,700
Dross and skimmings	2,620	31,300	31,400	2,610	161,000	162,000
Total new scrap	36,200 <sup>†</sup>	157,000	156,000	36,700	776,000	784,000
Old scrap:						
Used casting, sheet, clippings	12,100	31,800	31,600	12,300	161,000	162,000
Aluminum-copper radiators	1,450 <sup>†</sup>	1,670	1,590	1,530	8,180	8,540
Used cans (shredded, loose, baled)	34,700	63,400	64,500	33,600	279,000	274,000
Fragmentized shredder (auto shredder)	3,280	12,800	11,700	4,390	57,300	54,100
Total old scrap	51,600	110,000	109,000	51,800	505,000	498,000
Sweated pig	178	887	887	178	4,560	4,540
Total all classes	88,000 <sup>†</sup>	267,000	267,000	88,700	1,290,000	1,290,000

<sup>†</sup>Revised.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Includes revised data from previous month(s).

<sup>3</sup>Includes data on imported aluminum-base scrap.

TABLE 5  
ALUMINUM ALLOYS PRODUCED AT SECONDARY SMELTERS IN THE UNITED STATES FOR 2003<sup>1,2</sup>

(Metric tons)

	May				January-May <sup>3</sup>	
	Stocks, opening	Production	Net shipments	Stocks, closing	Production	Net shipments
Die-cast alloys:						
13% Si, 360, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	3,150	1,640	1,620	3,170	8,150	8,430
380 and variations	7,500	28,400	29,200	6,700	147,000	149,000
Sand and permanent mold:						
95/5 Al-Si, 356, etc. (0.6% Cu, max.)	2,070 <sup>†</sup>	4,250	4,040	2,270	20,300	20,100
No. 319 and variations	4,280 <sup>†</sup>	9,730	10,100	3,950	52,400	53,600
F-132 alloy and variations	1,480	2,020	2,030	1,470	9,740	10,200
Al-Zn alloys	42	59	71	29	388	392
Al-Si alloys (0.6% to 2.0% Cu)	91	168	168	91	841	841
Al-Cu alloys (1.5% Si, max.)	--	191	191	--	955	955
Other <sup>4</sup>	8,700 <sup>†</sup>	8,150	7,660	9,190	36,700	33,000
Wrought alloys:						
Extrusion billets	10,400 <sup>†</sup>	17,300	17,300	10,400	87,800	87,900
Total all alloys	37,700 <sup>†</sup>	71,900	72,300	37,300	364,000	365,000
Less:						
Primary aluminum consumed	XX	5,970	XX	XX	29,300	XX
Primary silicon consumed	XX	3,270	XX	XX	16,500	XX
Other alloying ingredients consumed	XX	531	XX	XX	3,250	XX
Net metallic recovery from aluminum scrap and sweated pig consumed in production of secondary aluminum ingot <sup>5</sup>	XX	62,100	XX	XX	315,000	XX

<sup>†</sup>Revised. XX Not applicable. -- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Excludes integrated aluminum companies.

<sup>2</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>3</sup>Includes revised data from previous month(s).

<sup>4</sup>Includes alloys No. 12, Al-Mg, Al-Si-Cu-Ni, aluminum-base hardeners, variations of these alloys, plus other aluminum alloys.

<sup>5</sup>No allowance made for melt-loss of primary aluminum and alloying ingredients.

TABLE 6  
U.S. IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF ALUMINUM IN APRIL 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April
Argentina	8,130	28,500	169	380	97	395	8,400	29,300
Australia	3,800	49,000	1	58	--	9	3,800	49,000
Bahrain	--	2,930	1,180	5,850	--	--	1,180	8,790
Belgium	(2)	5	1,040	3,540	--	--	1,040	3,540
Brazil	3,060	29,100	2,500	7,400	499	699	6,060	37,200
Canada	137,000	587,000	36,200	151,000	23,400	89,300	196,000	827,000
France	27	278	432	2,000	21	270	480	2,550
Germany	32	320	5,720	21,700	30	510	5,780	22,500
Ghana	--	--	--	--	--	592	--	592
Hungary	--	--	77	598	--	--	77	598
Italy	--	--	277	678	--	--	277	678
Japan	17	74	547	2,920	16	205	581	3,200
Korea, Republic of	--	1	812	2,040	--	--	812	2,040
Mexico	468	1,770	1,170	4,760	6,430	23,600	8,070	30,100
Netherlands	--	119	280	1,190	--	203	280	1,510
Norway	5	30	12	27	--	--	17	57
Russia	38,300	232,000	4,520	15,900	1,170	3,440	44,000	252,000
South Africa	1,630	4,060	2,780	10,700	--	--	4,410	14,700
Spain	--	47	29	69	--	21	29	136
Sweden	(2)	(2)	279	1,070	54	205	333	1,280
Switzerland	(2)	2,090	408	1,530	--	--	408	3,620
United Arab Emirates	4,500	16,600	--	2	108	618	4,610	17,200
United Kingdom	229	1,470	221	467	352	965	803	2,900
Venezuela	3,850	51,000	2,130	7,360	672	1,900	6,650	60,200
Other	1,730	6,770	8,570	33,000	3,200	13,200	13,500	53,100
Total	202,000	1,010,000	69,300	274,000	36,000	136,000	308,000	1,420,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.

TABLE 7  
U.S. EXPORTS OF ALUMINUM IN APRIL 2003<sup>1</sup>

(Metric tons)

Country or territory	Metals and alloys, crude		Plates, sheets, bars, etc.		Scrap		Total	
	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April	April	January- April
Australia	--	41	93	398	--	126	93	565
Belgium	37	258	289	1,270	(2)	(2)	326	1,520
Brazil	--	42	1,380	5,740	--	--	1,380	5,780
Canada	9,850	39,100	38,600	171,000	11,800	55,300	60,300	266,000
China	1	74	2,020	8,570	17,500	66,000	19,500	74,600
Czech Republic	--	--	1	158	--	--	1	158
Dominican Republic	17	40	11	462	--	--	28	502
France	20	21	480	1,530	--	3	500	1,550
Germany	95	196	421	1,600	5	65	521	1,860
Hong Kong	11	70	210	734	2,210	5,060	2,430	5,860
India	--	2	37	85	236	935	273	1,020
Israel	--	1	142	830	--	3	142	834
Italy	--	1	175	674	1	3	177	679
Japan	480	1,170	547	2,090	2,430	10,100	3,460	13,400
Korea, Republic of	67	133	1,090	4,810	3,710	14,200	4,860	19,200
Malaysia	19	75	77	224	57	63	153	363
Mexico	6,130	18,700	10,300	34,500	3,860	18,400	20,300	71,600
Netherlands	24	97	72	246	--	46	97	390
Russia	5	5	5	8	--	--	10	13
Saudi Arabia	--	--	961	5,610	--	--	961	5,610
Singapore	20	49	109	438	--	--	129	487
Spain	30	51	104	387	--	--	134	437
Sweden	--	--	38	159	--	--	38	159
Taiwan	2	68	647	1,850	2,720	9,770	3,360	11,700
Thailand	--	13	847	3,030	256	1,020	1,100	4,070
United Kingdom	38	134	933	3,700	49	281	1,020	4,110
Venezuela	--	--	63	362	--	16	63	378
Ukraine	--	--	--	1	--	--	--	1
Other	27	128	1,660	5,760	113	1,180	1,800	7,070
Total	16,900	60,400	61,300	257,000	44,900	183,000	123,000	500,000

-- Zero.

<sup>1</sup>Data are rounded to no more than three significant digits; may not add to totals shown.

<sup>2</sup>Less than 1/2 unit.

Source: U.S. Census Bureau.